

INSIDE THIS WEEK

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An 'Evening of Stars' raises record \$13.1 million

Opinion page 4

Fields joins City News as political commentator

ARTZ page 8

Welcome new Artz columnist Asondra Hunter

NEWS BRIEFS

AFRICAN AMERICANS
MOVE BACK TO THE
SOUTH

WASHINGTON—A migration trend is reversing itself in America. Instead of African-Americans moving from South to North, black professionals, blue collar workers and urban are now settling in Southern urban as well as rural areas.

Based on a study of Census Bureau data, between 1990 and 1996 was the first time that the South saw net gains of black people from the Northeast, Midwest and West. "Certainly economics is important in migration, but the racial climate has also changed in the South," said William Frey, a professor at the University of Michigan who participated in the study.

LEGISLATURE TRIES NOT
TO SPEND \$312 MILLION
ORDERED BY COURT

TRENTON—The State Legislature may be ready to amend the state's 100-year-old guarantee to a "thorough and efficient" education. Some of the state's lawmakers predict that there will be resistance to spend another \$312 million on poor schools ordered by the Supreme Court, and there may be a constitutional amendment to cut the spending. In the opinion of State Senate President Donald DiFrancesco, "I don't think giving the money to these school districts is appropriate when there are other programs we have that are efficient."

AUTO INSURANCE RATES
HAVE STABILIZED IN THE
STATE

TRENTON—A study by the National Association of Insurance Commissioners found that New Jersey auto insurance profits are the best they have been in a decade. The report points to the fact that auto insurance rates have risen more cautiously, and the number and average cost of accidents is down. "The good news is that New Jersey has stabilized in a place that both insurers and consumers should be relatively happy," said Brian Sullivan, author of the industry newsletter. "Rates aren't going up in New Jersey and insurers aren't losing money."

FIREBOMBED AFRICAN-AMERICAN WEEKLY VOWS TO CONTINUE

JACKSON, MS—The offices of the Jackson Advocate, a 58-year-old African-American weekly, sustained \$100,000 damage after a recent fire-bombing. The incident took place when two Molotov cocktails were tossed at the newspaper's 3300 N. 1st St. a.m. Although there are no known suspects in this incident, the publication has been vandalized 21 times since 1967. Charles Lewis, editor-in-chief of the newspaper in 1978, Although insurance will not cover the property damage, Tidale said, "We are going to fight. We have been through this before."

TEEN FACES UP TO FIVE
YEARS FOR KIDNAPPING
TWO-DAY-OLD BOY

PATERSON—A 16-year-old girl convicted of abducting a two-day-old boy from St. Joseph's Medical Center last August could spend three to five years in a juvenile detention. The girl was found guilty after a two-week trial. The mother of the baby, Josephine Smith, testified that the girl befriended her in the hospital. Smith asked the teen to buy her cigarettes and to watch her baby while she went to the bathroom to smoke. When Smith returned from the bathroom, the teen and her baby were gone.

Leaders urged to defeat bill S. 10

WASHINGTON—Black leaders from around the country are joining the Black Community Crusade for Children (BCCC) to press for the defeat of S. 10, The Violent and Repeat Juvenile Offender Act, which represents a grave danger to the future of children because it will allow children as young as 14 to be held in adult jails. The bill has already passed the House and is pending in the Senate.

Because this legislation could come up for a floor vote in the Senate as early as February, the BCCC is urging every parent, grandparent, student, community, and leader to oppose S. 10 and to speak out against it.

"This bill must be stopped because, if it isn't, it will only accelerate the demonizing, criminalization, imprisonment, and disempowerment of youth's—especially Black and Hispanic youth," says BCCC National Director Barbara Kujala-Sease.

If passed, S. 10 will:

- Put children, including very young children and those arrested for minor offenses, in adult jails with little or no protection from the adult population. This puts them at risk because children incarcerated with adults are five times more likely to be sexually assaulted and twice as likely to be beaten by prison staff than children in juvenile facilities.

- Allow records that now remain sealed to follow children into adulthood, robbing them of job prospects, higher education, and citizenship opportunities.

- Young people in harm's way who get caught with cigarettes, beer or drugs for up to one year with no requirement for alternative education or substance abuse counseling.
- Offer no investment in prevention or take any steps to keep guns from getting into the hands of children, even though both strategies have proven effective in reducing juvenile crime.

It also fails to address the disproportionate confinement of minority children. A national network of child-serving organizations and advocates, is coordinated nationally by the Children's Defense Fund. The BCCC's mission is to ensure that no child is left behind and that every child has a Healthy Start, a Head Start, a Fair Start, a Life Support and a Moral Start in life with the support of caring parents and nurturing communities.

For more information about mobilization efforts aimed at defeating S. 10, call 202-662-3664.

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James: Much progress and more more to come

By g. mator

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"We could talk about the last," the Mayor said after describing the deplorable state of the city 17 years ago in his 45-minute speech. "But let's talk about the good things the city has experienced." For James, these good things include 1,000 more jobs and better public safety, financial progress in the form of higher bond ratings and cuts in administrative spending, the creation of 25,000 jobs, a better quality of social and cultural life in the form of two movie theaters and of course—NJPAAC.

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Aikins heads athletics at Plainfield High

Stay-in-school network gets new State director

Twins receive appreciation in Orange

Freeholders salute equal employment opportunity winners

A senior trainee, Hattie Williams worked with Levin 20 hours a week to increase the Family and Consumer Sciences' outreach in Plainfield, Williams' community. The collaboration of Williams and Levin resulted in the Mentors Matter program, Indoor Air Quality program, the Volunteer Recognition Event, the Germ Alert program and the Power Pay program. "Because of Hattie, the Rutgers Cooperative Extension office and Family and Consumer Sciences programs have served many people in Plainfield through agencies, which have included Good Beginnings and Plainfield Seniors," Freeholder Stender added.

Who are New Jersey's 100 Most Influential?

- Individuals who contribute significantly to the progress of black people in the state of New Jersey
- Individuals who use their success to uplift the black communities of New Jersey
- Individuals who use their positions to promote good corporate citizenship
- Individuals who selflessly do extraordinary community service
- Individuals who not only understand the critical importance of rebuilding New Jersey's urban communities, but also commit significant time and resources to urban revitalization

City News Publishing Company
presents

The Third Annual
City News

100 Most Influential

May 1998

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**In the race,
if not in the
family**

Black history month

Every year during the month of February, the nation celebrates African American History Month. This is a celebration of a group of people and women who overcame all levels of adversity and continue to this day to struggle for freedom and equality on almost every level. While we are still in the midst of struggle, our race can point with pride to our accomplishments, and have confidence in the fact that there will be more progress in our future.

Each year, the government focuses on a particular aspect of African American history. This year, in a proclamation signed by President Clinton, the theme is "African Americans in Business: The Path Towards Empowerment." Clinton states that by the year 2000, African Americans will account for nearly 12 percent of the labor force. In his proclamation, Clinton also cites statistics from the Census Bureau showing African American-owned businesses growing significantly faster than the number of U.S. businesses overall.

While we have worked and fought for such things as the right to vote, Martin Luther King, Jr.'s birthday, and the expansion of our achievements from a week to a month, in order to be fully assimilated into the mainstream, African Americans must work towards the things in society that give them power and parity. The acquisition of land, and the continued building of business give us the strength we need to make our voices heard, collectively and individually. Without these things, voting, birthday commemorations, and a month of our own name little, and do nothing to really advance us.

No growth is done without a plan. Planning for the future starts today for tomorrow, and tomorrow for the next day. While we celebrate our lineage journey from our ancestors arrival on these shores, to the first Negro History Week, by years ago, and on to our phenomenal success in recent decades both in the white man's world and especially among our own, we should remember that the best laid plans are not done unilaterally or unintentionally. Our worth as a race depends on the work we do for ourselves, the care we have for each other, the love we have for each other, and the communication and help we give each other.

Letter to the Editor

Dear Editor

I wish to congratulate Governor Christine Whitman on her commitment to New Jersey's community colleges by agreeing to fully fund the \$12 million that they have been requesting. This decision to make a long-term investment in these extremely valuable institutions shows her concern for our citizens' education and job training.

I have always held that the City of Newark's future relies on much more than just new office towers and national retail chains. For Newark to have a real, solid future, our citizens have to have an education and job skills so they can be truly productive members of society.

Armed with a strong education, they can become role models for our children and our children's children. They can make Newark a stronger city, and propel it well into the 21st century and beyond.

Sharpe James, Mayor
City of Newark

Looking back at Satchel Paige

By Dan Friedman

Fifty years ago the Cleveland Indians signed a 43-year-old pitcher named Satchel Paige. He had been playing baseball for nearly a quarter of a century. Why did the Indians sign him? Because he happened to be a remarkable pitcher—maybe the greatest in the history of the game. Why did they wait so long to sign him? Because Satchel Paige happened to be Black—and until 1947 the great American pastime, like virtually all of our other institutions, was officially segregated.

Unlike Jackie Robinson who had preceded him into the majors by a year and spent most of his playing life there, Satchel Paige was never taken for a hero. He was an ordinary man who did one thing extraordinarily well, and for most of his baseball life, he did it in the Negro leagues.

Since major league baseball was for whites only, black ballplayers organized their own professional teams that were formed into leagues by the second decade of this century. Black teams, usually owned by black businessmen, played each other (although not exclusively) for black fans. Profit margins were slim, and few black owners could afford their own stadiums. With the teams operating on a shoestring, the players, even great ones like Paige, had no job security. They often moved from team to team, breaking their contracts when a rival club offered them more money. (Some of them even belonged to two teams simultaneously.) The fluid nature of black baseball and the constant need to fill the bleachers resulted in opportunities for all sorts of players. The only three who played professional baseball in American history played on Black teams in the 1930s.

The Negro Leagues were part of a

rich array of African-American institutions that evolved between the collapse of Reconstruction in the late part of the 19th century and the birth of the Civil Rights movement in the 1960s. These institutions included a Black press, which remains a force in contemporary American political life. The music and dance halls were jazz evolved; and the theaters, journals, and publishing houses that nurtured the Harlem Renaissance of the '20s. Like black baseball, black institutions were "separated" reactions to segregation.

With the integration of baseball in 1947, the Negro Leagues lost their purpose and began to fade away, but they did not disappear. The passion for the game, and the sheer brilliance of the athletes who belonged to teams like the Newark Eagles, the Homestead Grays and the New York Black Yankees before forever to baseball and to America.

"Don't look back," Satchel Paige used to say. Something might be gaining on you. In those days, millions of working Americans—white as well as black—could appreciate the sentiment that lay behind the saying: the "something" could be the landlord or a bill collector, a police officer or aynch mob. More recently, however, millions of Americans have been looking back, through the lens of popular culture at the history of race relations in our country. We are looking not in fear or in blame but of a desire to see ourselves more completely.

Dan Friedman, Ph.D. is the resident dramatist at the Castillo Theatre. He is also the author of *City of Newark: City where he is in directing Satchel: A Requiem for Racism*.

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Plainfield, NJ 07060

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144 North Avenue,
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Preparing for African American History Month

By Dr. Conrad W. Worrill

Through the African-Centered Education Movement, African American History Month has now become the catalyst for the study of Africa and the history of African people throughout the world, 365 days a year.

Dr. Carter G. Woodson, who founded in February of 1926, what was called "Negro History Week" at that time, would indeed be inspired by the continuing discussion and debate over the infusion of the contributions of African people in all subjects. Dr. Woodson was concerned that the contributions of African people to this society were not given their proper recognition.

Dr. Woodson's great book, *The Miseducation of the Negro*, written in 1933, described in the first chapter titled, *The Seat of the Trouble*, the essence of what the African-Centered Curriculum Movement is battling against today—64 years later.

Dr. Woodson explained that, "Of the hundreds of Negro high schools recently examined (1933) by an expert in the United States Bureau of Education, only eighteen offered a course in the history of the Negro, and in most of the Negro colleges and universities where the Negro is thought of, the race is studied only as a problem or discussed in a highly consequential manner."

Obviously, since the writing of this great book, we have come a long way in our battle against challenging the white supremacy foundation of the American public school curriculum. However, we still have a long way to go!

The Black Movement of the 1960's gave us an impetus to reexamine our history and its impact on this country and the world. This movement brought our interest, on the part of our people, to study our history.

It was through the movement of the

1960's, particularly the Black Power Phase, that we began to reidentify with our homeland—Africa, and the interconnection of African people throughout the world.

As we have come full circle today in our general acceptance of being an African people whose ancestral homeland is Africa, we are also beginning to recognize that African-American History Month celebrations and activities are great, but the contributions of African people must be emphasized throughout the year.

There is no question that the setting aside of the month of February as an extension of Dr. Woodson's original idea of "Negro History Week" is something that we need to continue to support and institutionalize vigorously.

However, we must be clear that the real meaning of African American History Month in this era is to take the spirit of the contributions of African people, 365 days a year. This is the basis of the current African-Centered Education Movement whose objective is to take control of the education of African-American people as we struggle to insure that the truth is taught in all of the communities and particularly the schools. We must take the spirit of African-American History Month to another level. Our history must be studied throughout the year.

Conrad Worrill is the National Chairman of the National Black United Front.

Our political writer: Walter Fields

MONTECLAIR—Joining the City News family of publications is Walter L. Fields, Jr., the principal of Fields Communications, a public affairs and government relations firm located in Maplewood, New Jersey. Fields Communications is a full service firm specializing in public policy analysis, diversity management, public addressing and public consulting. Prior to establishing his own firm, Mr. Fields served as the Director of Public Affairs for the New York State Trial Lawyers Association and previously as the Senior Government Policy Analyst for the Community Service Society of New York.

Mr. Fields has advised the special delegation on deregulation and trade for Japan's House of Representatives on product liability issues. He has also served as a guest lecturer in public policy at Meiji Gakuin University in Tokyo. While in Tokyo he briefed the Japanese Diet on consumer issues pertaining to product liability. In 1993 he traveled to Accra, Ghana as a member of the International Commission of the New Jersey/Ghana Trade and Investment Mission. Mr. Fields had the honor of being a member of the delegation that was headed by President Jerry Rawlings at the Presidential Palace in Accra.

He has also participated in an assessment of democratization and decentralization of local government

in South Africa, Swaziland and Botswana as a consultant to the United States Agency for International Development. Mr. Fields was also retained by the National Forum for Black Public Administrators (NFBPA) and the International City Managers Association (ICMA) to coordinate a local government management training institute in Port Elizabeth, South Africa.

Mr. Fields has a long history of involvement in community oriented activities external to his many professional responsibilities. He has been particularly committed to initiating programs recognizing the positive contribution of racial and ethnic diversity society.

Mr. Fields is an award winning journalist. His work has been cited by the Society of Professional Journalists as "New Jersey Chapter of the Garden State Association of Black Journalists. Mr. Fields is a contributing Editor to New Jersey Chapter of the Garden State Association of Black Journalists. He is also a frequent guest on national and local public affairs programs on radio and television. He has been featured on the radio and in the MSNBC, the 24 hour cable television/Internet network that is a joint venture of NBC and Microsoft.

Fields produces "One Voice...with Walter Fields," a weekly public affairs commentary on WNJR. He has also produced a series of public affairs commentary on National Public Radio affiliate, WBOG 88 FM Radio, Newark.

Is it time to move on Gary, Indiana?

By Harry C. Afford

Terrible business conditions can and will certainly make unemployment, crime, poverty, poor health care and hopelessness rampant. Such is the experience of Gary, Indiana.

There are a lot of abuses performed over the decades in Gary. Probably the biggest that has been in my attention has been with HUD programs. You all know about the unique Homebased Assistance programs that HUD exercise in many urban communities. Recently, in the Washington Post newspaper, there was an announcement that various HUD properties, which had been for sale at prices from \$250 to \$1,000. Buyers must be first time home buyers and they would also receive an instant \$10,000 low interest loan to go towards the rehab. This is a fantastic opportunity for a new family, single parent family, or persons living close to the poverty level but wanting to "pull themselves up" through hard work.

The above Homebased Assistance program is offered throughout the nation. During past decades homes were offered in Gary for as little as \$1. Not only were there low interest loans but actual grants for the rehabs. This was tailor made for a community like Gary which has been constantly losing its population and

vital neighborhoods. The problem in Gary was that the program was "too good" for Gary's mid level managers and such pirated the program. The recipients were supposed to be first time home buyers who absolutely would have to live in the dwellings themselves. What ended up was a new crop of "slum lords." The opportunity was "lost" and the units for personal income property. There was no significant new home ownership but a bunch of nouveau "good of the world" exploiting local poverty victims.

The National Black Chamber of Commerce is going to perform a serious discovery investigation on HUD Homebased Assistance activity in Gary. We want to use this as a prototype for other communities who want to see if the "right thing" is happening in their communities. If the abuse is as big as we suspect, we are going to rally a coalition of business, religious, and political "slum lords" and corrupt local and federal officials.

A fluid, pure and productive government must be based on reality. Presented to the good people of Gary, Hood of Steel City, it ain't over till it's over!

Harry C. Afford is president/CEO, National Black Chamber of Commerce, Inc.

Commentary:

Organizing for the good life

By William Reed

If blacks would get together, we'd be a powerful group in this country. However, the reality is we only give lip-service to the concept of unity, remaining the second poorest ethnic group in the nation. To gain full status in America, black people are going to have to stop spinning about the past and start to pull their own economic weight.

Predominantly black urban America is fraught with problems that hamper and stigmatize all African-Americans. Crime, wanton violence, drugs and lack of hope plagues the 40 percent of Black Americans who reside in Urban America. Urban black voters, thinking they are "empowered" because they are participating in "democratic" elections, continue to elect politicians who are 80 percent white people who live outside their districts. It's distorted thinking to believe someone else other than people like us have interest, or family and friends there who are going to fund our inner-cities. To get off the bottom rung and actually gain the American dream, black Americans will have to understand, organize around and master this nation's system of free-market capitalism.

Blacks are being bamboozled into believing that power is in politics. The truth is that with money and property, you have power. Throughout American history the business franchise has always controlled the political franchise. The quicker African-American investment is being politically dependent and economically dysfunctional, can we begin to organize our own winning abilities and strategies. Black Power will be factual only when we fully organize around issues of economic development.

Moving to organize among ourselves has both short- and long-range benefits. In the short run it's effective for getting important things done:

improving our schools, increasing our cash flow, establishing rights on the job, improving government relations and responses, improving transportation, leadership and all protesting and defending our neighborhoods. Most of the problems African-Americans face everyday can be dealt with by organizing our economic power.

But organizing has other benefits that in the long run will be even more important. Through a organization we'll learn new things about ourselves and each other. We'll find dignity in place of mistrustment. Self-respect instead of lack of self-confidence. We'll stop letting just a few people speak for us and collectively work with other blacks to influence, speak up and be heard. Through organizing around issues of Black Economic Empowerment African Americans will build businesses and economically-oriented coalitions. We'll define issues for ourselves and meet not to glorify elected officials, but to plan strategies for personal and collective economic applications.

We can develop broader and better leadership at all levels of America's social and economic systems, establish stronger communication systems and take direct and personal action for personal and social issues when we organize.

We've had voting equity for 30 years while our per capita income compared to whites is declining. Black wealth building doesn't come from politics and can be achieved only when we own more American real estate, accumulate capital investments, savings and deposits in black-owned institutions, have increased our purchases of products and services from each other and increased employment opportunities and ownership of businesses at all levels.

William Reed is the publisher of the "Business Exchange Newsletter."

Chicago Defender, we wish you the best

By Carolyn Bennett

Chicago Defender general manager, Eugene Scott, says the color of money is green, and enough of it can do bigger and better things for the Chicago Defender which was offered for sale in December after the death of Spring of its heir and long-time publisher John Sengstacke.

The publisher's holdings await a buyer and many in the black community wonder that the four papers, including the Defender, might fall into white hands, but Scott's not worried.

He says there's no need to worry about the Defender falling into the hands of someone who wouldn't carry on the paper's focus on the black community. "I've formerly a lot of white friends who read the paper different from what it is," he says, and nobody intends to do that.

In the late 20th century, the Defender continues its tradition of the early century. It has a two-part mission reflected in Friday's lead headlines. Black issues lead but so do national issues localized to a black audience. The lead story is about bias in a local bank, but also leading the front page is a story on the E. Jordan Jr. pegged to the breaking news story in Washington about alleged affairs in high office.

What the Defender has done for years is bring the focus on black Americans—their life and work—and bring hard news and tough issues, in their interest. Whether it was jobs, jails or killing, how-to psychology or survival spirituality, the Defender could be trusted to focus on it in news and editorial.

There is something else the Defender does. It speaks for silenced voices and unspoken issues—but to a not only to black audiences—but to a

national audience. Sometimes, the national audience, including the Washington press corps, listens and takes notes and when the national press breaks out on Diana and Washington comic circus of affairs, the Defender keeps the drum beat on the hard issues: homelessness and welfare and human rights and spirituality and getting it together.

I want to believe Eugene Scott would be saying there was never any question about the Defender shutting down the presses.

"Is a business" that can only get "better" is a business that can't be taken over and the color of those hands is irrelevant."

The Defender needs overhauling. That takes solid money. In addition to the four newspapers in the Defender enterprise, there are history-making documents and photographs in an upper room at the paper's Chicago offices that need to be catalogued. Papers years back need indexing. Materials need scanning and digitizing to preserve them and make them accessible to researchers. That takes big bucks the paper does not now have. The paper's daily operations need updating. It needs reporters and photographers. Editors are paid competitive salaries. That takes money. Scott said: Money. Not sympathy. Not sentimentalism. Money.

I wish with a grateful confusion, I wish you well: the best buy, the best marketing, the best writers and designers, the best reporters and editors and activists, the best subscribers. I wish you (and us) a new Defender with an old mission.

Carolyn L. Bennett is a columnist in Washington D.C. and lecturer at Howard University.

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BUSINESS CALENDAR

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 4

NEW BRUNSWICK—The NJ State Bar Foundation presents a free public seminar on bankruptcy law from 7 to 9 p.m. at the NJ Law Center. For more info, call 1-800-FREE-LAW.

NEWARK—Industrial Engineering Career Day offers opportunities at NJIT for high school students at 10 a.m. For more info, call 973-596-3667.

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 6

NEW YORK—A seminar, #1050732, "How to Manage Multiple Projects & Meet Deadlines" will be held at the Plant Central Hotel. For more info, call 1-800-855-8159.

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 9

CRANFORD—Real Estate career preparation will be held from 9 a.m. to noon on Monday through Thursday at Union County College. For more info, call 908-709-7553.

NEW BRUNSWICK—A networking dinner for small business owners will be held at 5:15 p.m. at the Hyatt Regency. For more info, call 908-709-6980.

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 10

INDIANA—Society of Professional Journalists announces the '97 Sigma Delta Chi Journalism Awards Competition. Call 800-635-5533 for entries.

PLAINFIELD—Join a round-table discussion focused on issues and problems common to all business owners from 8 to 9:30 p.m. at the United National Community Education Center. For more info, call 908-756-5000.

WOODBURGE—Stephen Nibel will speak on "To Make Broadfields transactions work" at 5:30 p.m. at the Sheraton. For more info, call 732-238-8190.

SOMERVILLE—Learn how to write a business plan from 7:00 p.m. to 9:30 p.m. at the Raritan Valley Community College. For more info, call 908-253-6888.

The 'Talking House' sells well

FOND DU LAC, WI—Imagine you are out driving around, looking for a new home. You see plenty of for-sale signs, but none of the houses really jumps out at you. Then, you see a yard sign that says "Talking House-Tune Your Car Radio To 1610 For Information."

Curious, you tune your radio. Suddenly, the house is "talking" to you! Talking Houses are a hot marketing tool that brokers are using to sell real estate. The idea stems from the notion that people are buying neighborhoods before they are buying houses. That means a lot of driving around, stopping at new neighborhoods. Talking House draws in that passerby by means of a small transmitter no bigger than an answering machine, nestled somewhere inside the home or garage. A tape of up to three minutes relays details about the backyard or the family room or the kitchen area.

Realtors need to make good use of their time. Talking House lets them target smart, pre-qualifying prospects who might really be in the market for a given home. Many agents have complained that one call off a Talking House is more than 10 times as productive as a call off a yard sign alone. Buyers are that much better qualified.

"It quickly pays for itself many times over," according to Rick Mathew, founder of Realty Electronics, Inc. Mathew spent 30 years in real estate as an agent and broker. He developed the Talking House concept in the '80s for his own business, and found nothing could match it as a listing and selling tool. "With the commission earned from listing a single home, an agent can pay for dozens of Talking Houses," notes Mathew, "and each of those will transmit listings for years to come."

Realty Electronics, based in Wisconsin, has sold over 50,000 of the unique Transmitters all across the country. Many agents have dozens of Transmitters, with some firms having hundreds of Transmitters in their listings.

Agents who use the device say it is a perfect solution to what buyers dislike most about house shopping—calling all those agents for basic information. People drive around collecting phone numbers after looking at yard signs. Then they have to go through a maze of calling all the agents. The agents all want to take their phone numbers, and the buyers often end up feeling harassed and sometimes intimidated by the entire process.

Most people are grabbed by curb appeal. If they like what they see and like what they hear, then they'll call the agent. Even if the home isn't particularly appealing from the outside, drive-by prospects will always tune in, if only out of curiosity. Because of that many buyers find the "right home" is actually one they would have driven past.

Rutgers dedicates new small business development center headquarters

NEWARK—The New Jersey Small Business Development Center (NSBDC) of Rutgers Graduate School of Management has a lot to celebrate these days. Recently the university dedicated a newly renovated brownstone on Bleeker Street in Newark to house the NSBDC's headquarters which administers the statewide network of nine regional management assistance centers, five specialty services and two business incubators. The regional center which serves small business owners from Essex, Eastern Morris and Middlesex counties will be located on the first floor.

The ceremony was hosted by Rutgers-Newark Provost Norman Samuels. Faculty of Management Dean George Benson, NSBDC State Director Brenda Hopper and NSBDC Board Chairman Blaine Greenfield celebrated the re-dedication of the NSBDC.

Network by the National Association of Small Business Development Centers and the launch of NSBDC's 20th year of service to New Jersey entrepreneurs. Since 1978 the statewide network has provided counseling and training services to more than 140,000 aspiring and established small business owners.

The hosts also used the occasion to honor the many funding and programmatic partners who have made the NSBDC's services possible over the years. Guests included Lonna Hooks, Secretary of State, representatives from the U.S. Small Business Administration, the New Jersey Department of Commerce, the New Jersey Commission on Science and Technology, and leaders from more than one million private sector contributors such as Chase Manhattan Bank, Arthur Andersen Buchanan Ingersoll and New Jersey Online.



New Jersey Small Business Development Center State Director Brenda Hopper, along with the Dean of the Rutgers Faculty of Management, Dr. P. George Benson, cut the ribbon for the new NSBDC state headquarters.

"We underestimate the power and influence of the Black press—and ourselves."

By Regina Lynch-Hudson

"The universal chorus on the lips of African-American business owners is, 'Can you get me in USA Today?' or in a leading mainstream publication? On a crusade for mass publicity, African-Americans often neglect the most lucrative source of profitability: ourselves."

From creators of goods and services angled at Blacks, to inventors of stylish merchandise reflecting our culture, we deem our victory-makers to be the very media sources that have historically portrayed African-Americans in a distorted light. In doing so, we underestimate the power and influence of the Black press—and ourselves.

According to Legueta Floyd, publisher of the Prince George's Post, a sole Black newspaper in the nation's most affluent Black county, many Black businesses opt to subscribe to and advertise in neighboring giant, the Washington Post, the city's dominant daily paper. Virtually all Black newspapers are weeklies or bi-weeklies.

The business pages of high-circulation newspapers and slick, glossy Anglo-American magazines are sparsely peppered with African-American success stories. It's no surprise the magazine industry is manned by a "Good ole boys' club, where there are few Blacks in decision-making roles. When Folio Magazine conducted a survey of 211 magazines, it discovered that more than 70 percent of the titles had no minorities on staff. Among 1,169 editors surveyed, less than 1 percent were minorities. Our monumental successes are just too insignificant to Caucasian editors, Anthony Underwood's rags to

riches success story of a lady who once sold pecans, and later grossed \$2 million in a year in sales within two years of starting Underwood Automotive in rural Brighton, Ala., is a beacon to Black youth nationally. Were it not for minority publications country-wide who spotlighted his modest climb, he'd be forever waiting for Fortune or Forbes knockers on his door.

When Atlanta-based Master Optician Thomas Blair, Jr., developed Eyecare, the eyeglass-making company shared headlines coast to coast, revealing that competitors were marketing pseudo-ethnic brands of eyeglasses at targeted prices at African-Americans, using "Black sounding" names. For entrepreneurs like Underwood and Blair, Black newspapers are the only content what they may lack in circulation. Traditionally, African-American media sources are more politically in tune with the communities they serve. The Black press "has our back," it features what's happening with us in a light that captures the people as we are, it is the keeper of our words.

And after all, who patronizes our goods and services? We do.

Today, African-Americans represent the largest ethnic minority group in the U.S., a population expected to swell to 39 million by 2010. It has a current estimated purchasing power of approximately \$427 billion. The number of Blacks earning \$50,000 or more has grown 41 percent over the past five years. Advertising research further indicates that savvy marketers area acknowledging our worth, shelling out \$574 million to target African-American last year—a self-worth and buying power we, ourselves have not fully realized.

Treasury Department receives small business development award

WASHINGTON—The Treasury Department was honored today by the National Association of Black Procurement Professionals (NABPP) for its support of small, minority and women-owned businesses.

"The Treasury Department is proud to play a leadership role in outreach to small, minority and women-owned businesses," Secretary Rubin said. "We are committed to programs that foster business development and increase opportunities."

The Small Business Development Award is awarded on the basis of small business prime and subcontract accomplishments during fiscal years 1994 through 1996. The Treasury Department was selected because it

exceeded its goals in every category of awarding procurement contracts based on both prime and subcontracts. This award recognizes the Treasury Department for establishing high goals for itself on awarding contracts to small, minority and women-owned businesses and exceeding those goals. The Treasury Department works to increase capital access and participation by small, minority and women-owned businesses in all aspects of Treasury's programs and procurement activities.

Founded in 1988, the NABPP is a Washington, D.C., based non-profit professional society. The members are from federal state, local governments and private sector businesses.

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Customers worry slamming will get worse

SAN ANTONIO, TX—More than half of all telephone customers fear they will be slammed, and nearly all think they should be able to protect their choice of telecommunications providers from being charged without their knowledge or permission, according to a survey released today by Southwestern Bell.

The company also released its long-distance slamming statistics for 1997 which show that Southwestern Bell interceded on behalf of nearly 558,000 customers with such disputes last year—a nearly 50 percent increase from 1996. The company also has begun helping hundreds of customers each month with local service slamming disputes. Slamming is the unauthorized changing

of a customer's telecommunications company.

Southwestern Bell is required to provide billing services for other telecommunications companies. Although Southwestern Bell is not responsible for slamming, the company is committed to serving as an advocate for customers in such disputes, which can take hours, days and even weeks to resolve.

Nearly all Southwestern Bell customers surveyed in its traditional five-state service area strongly agree they should be able to freely choose the local or long-distance telephone company they want to do business with, and the same percentage agree or strongly agree that they have a right to protect those choices.

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Obituary

Carleener Polk Roy, educator

By Avery Grant
 Dr. Roy, daughter of the late, Millington and Lela Polk, was born in Georgia in 1926. She spent her early years in Lake Charles, Louisiana, and lived in the Long Branch area for over thirty years. She attended Leland State College, Scottsdale, Va., where she received her Bachelor of Arts degree. She continued her education at Fisk University, Columbia University, Howard University, receiving a Masters of Arts Degree from New York University. She received her Doctorate Degree in Education from Rutgers University in 1991.

Honorable Norma H. Johnson, Chief Judge, United States District Court, District of Columbia, remarked, "Dr. Roy was a woman of life, and she was very important to me, although while growing up in Lake Charles, I wanted to hate her sometimes, when she would come to visit, 'why can't you be a lady like her?'"

Clude A. Liggins, one of her third grade students in Lake Charles, and a resident in Los Angeles, said of her as a woman who taught them what pride was, in the days when many had pride only in the proud. "She would just tell us, 'her pride told me to smile and speak to everyone today, because she insisted that in me.'"

Dr. Roy was very active in the church as choir member and Sunday School teacher in community activities with the Long Branch Public Library, the Monmouth County YMCA, and Professional Women's Council, Inc., and was a member of Kappa Delta Pi, the Honor Society in Education, and the Beta Sigma Chapter. She was also a member of the Alpha Chapter of the Order of the Eastern Star, and the Alpha Chapter of the Order of the Eastern Star, and the Alpha Chapter of the Order of the Eastern Star.

Taylor, Chicago, Ill.

Kings' vision of justice: Rooted in the Bible

By David J. Lall

As we celebrate the life of the Reverend Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., it is important to remember how important the Bible was to him, and how deeply his vision of racial justice is rooted in the Judeo-Christian heritage. It was the Bible that led him to choose the more excellent way of love and nonviolent protest over hatred and despair and violence.

Dr. King often pointed out that it was Jesus' Sermon on the Mount that inspired his "divine, radical social vision." It was the Bible that gave him his vision of "creative suffering"—borne

by civil rights activists who endured persecution and police brutality—came from his Christian faith in the redemptive suffering of Jesus.

Dr. King dreamed of a day when America lives up to its creed, when all people sit together at one table, and when freedom and justice reign. His famous "I have a dream" speech reaches its highest point with echoes of the prophet Isaiah: "I have a dream that one day every valley shall be exalted, every hill and mountain shall be made low, and the glory of the Lord shall be revealed, and all flesh shall see it together."

In the words of the prophet

Isaiah, he hoped that one day all persons elected to public office will "do justice, love kindness, and walk humbly with their God." His hope for an end was rooted in Isaiah's vision that people will "Beat their swords into plowshares, and their spears into pruning hooks." Biblical promises of "peace on earth and good will toward all" were Dr. King's antidote to despair.

To critics who accused him of being an extremist, Dr. King said that he stood in a long line of extremists, including the prophet Amos, Jesus, the apostle Paul, the Protestant reformer Martin Luther. Thomas

Jefferson and Abraham Lincoln. For Dr. King, the question was what kind of extremists we will be—extremist for hate or for love, for injustice or for justice, for evil or for goodness.

Dr. King's commitment to the Bible as his primary source book was nourished in his childhood when Bible stories told around the dinner table held the king children in awe. Those stories sustained him until the end of his life.

David Lall is the director of the Bible Translation and Utilization Program of the National Council of the Churches of Christ in the USA.

Long Branch church plans for the 21st Century

By Avery Grant

LONG BRANCH—Trinity African Methodist Episcopal Church recently sponsored a kickoff banquet to launch its Vision 2000. Its plan for the 21st Century.

"Our church has been here over 110 years and it is time to expand," said Rev. Howard L. Grant, pastor, to add to our worshiping and to fulfill the needs of the whole person, spiritually and physically."

Vision 2000 is a long-range program to enhance the interior and exterior of the church edifice, to include the addition of an educational wing; to increase church programs, such as the recently initiated Computer Learning Center, and "most importantly, to continue to serve as a light-house to the community, reflecting its beacon of love, friendship and fellowship."

"We want to build the multipurpose wing to establish the program, because the community needs them, and the scriptures call for us to serve," said Rev. Grant.

Trinity AME Church was first organized in 1873, by Rev. W. Rodgers, Fair Haven, but his effort was short-lived. In 1880 the church was reorganized by Rev. A.C. Garrison, with the assistance of eight members. The ground was purchased, and in 1881, Rev. T. McCann Stewart, who laid the cornerstone, assisted by members of the Dutch

Reverend Howard Grant, pastor of Trinity AME Church, stands in front of his church where a major expansion is planned to meet the challenges of the 21st Century.

Reformed Church. Over the 118 years, with major improvements, the edifice has become very attractive and inspirational to a place of worship. Through the efforts of a member, Joan Minn, Trinity AME Church was designated a National Historic Site in 1980.

Speakers of Vision 2000, Rev. Grant said that the Bible gave him the vision, and that it is now time to act. Even though in the early planning stage, Vision 2000 has generated much excitement in the congregation, and Vivian Martin, a committee member, said, "We must certainly pray for this Vision 2000 project which marks a renewal and rededication of Trinity's members to face the challenge of the years ahead."

but compounded stress levels. In addition, when those in authority attempt to crush the self-esteem of line employees, they make it mathematically impossible for the worker to feel "incredibly creative energies for the benefit of all."

We encourage a constant exchange of information between managers, associates and workers—sales (i.e., projections, gross receipts, expenditures, bonuses, etc.) so as to create trust in and ownership of the company. If trust and ownership are the norms in an organization, members of the organization are inspired to want to give their best.

We encourage everyone with managerial or supervisory responsibilities to listen empathetically to line employees—especially about ways of doing their jobs more efficiently. I believe genius resides closer to the work being done.

We compare and contrast power and influence. Clearly, influence prevails as the most effective means of getting enthusiastic (discretionary) compliance from others. Influence is averts ego's—wars that lead to nothing

and from ourselves. It is clear we will never get it from anyone else. We must turn within and stop measuring ourselves against our adversaries. We must begin to accept our physical features as naturally beautiful, we must love who we are and realize who we are is part of the divine order crafted in wisdom by infinite intelligence.

We must begin to think for ourselves, redefine ourselves in the light of holistic truth and begin to reflect on truth rather than lies and distortions. In an abusive situation the abuser tortures us not because of anything we do, but because of his or her own pathology. It is monumentally insane to attempt to reason with or appease a psychopath. The best you can do is fight back or get away from him or her as soon as possible.

The Bible wisely addresses this, "Envy not the oppressor and choose none of his ways." Proverbs 3:31.

The only way, our families and our communities will ever experience healing and wholeness is for us to validate ourselves by turning within, in discovering and demonstrating our genius and being who God created us to be. Anything less than our best effort is an insult and an affront to the Creator, our ancestors, our contemporaries and our progeny!

Speaker gives 5 R's to King observers at YMCA breakfast



The winners of the Monmouth County YMCA Memorial Breakfast Essay Winners are, from left, Maxine Sabrin, Freehold, Alexis Gresham, Freehold, Joey Amberg, Red Bank, and David Hundley, Freehold. Each read their winning essays about meaning of Dr. King's message, and received a certificate of recognition at the breakfast in the Fort Monmouth Officers' Club.

by Avery Grant

FORT MONMOUTH—Rev. Rochelle B. Hendricks, associate minister, Grant Memorial AME Church, Trenton, gave a lesson in the 5 R's for realizing Dr. Martin Luther King's dream to the attendees of the Ninth Annual Monmouth County YMCA King Memorial Breakfast at the Fort Monmouth Officers' Club.

"Dr. King raised the consciousness of all of us," the speaker stressed "all" to emphasize the inclusiveness, "but he also threw down the gauntlet." In order to realize his dream she said that we must repent, Recall, Reclaim, Renew, and Respond, by doing what we can, often that is a small minuscule job that nobody sees or knows about, but each must commit with passion and consistency to realize his dream."

Renew our faith and love for America and for each other, she urged, and then, "Respond, by doing what we can, often that is a small minuscule job that nobody sees or knows about, but each must commit with passion and consistency to realize his dream."

recall that all Americans are a people born out of little of nothing, but believing that we could be something. She recited the inscription on the Statue of Liberty that beckoned all the world's downtrodden, saying, "This is America, and we must recall a history that claims everybody."

In reclaiming the vision of America, Rev. Hendricks stressed that we must say "yes" to something, and not limit ourselves by propaganda, because, "In this room there is the capacity to change the world if we believe."

Renew our faith and love for America and for each other, she urged, and then, "Respond, by doing what we can, often that is a small minuscule job that nobody sees or knows about, but each must commit with passion and consistency to realize his dream."

Dr. Leonard Jeffries to speak at First Mount Zion

NEWARK—One of the nation's foremost authorities on the subject of African-American history, Dr. Leonard Jeffries, a professor at the City College of New York, will be the guest speaker for a special black history program at First Mount Zion Baptist Church on Sunday, February 8 at 11 a.m. The church is located at 186-190 Thomas Street, in Newark's Ironbound section. First Mount Zion is pastored by Dr. L. Ronald Durlin, and holds the distinction of being the oldest standing black Baptist church in the state, built in 1878.

"It is fitting that the nation's leading authority on the subject of black history, will be our special guest," says Pastor Durlin. "The spirit of our ancestor's will no doubt shout for joy as we celebrate their legacy, and tremendous sacrifice." Dr. Durlin stated, "The program is entitled '300 Men in Black,' and the church is inviting all who wish to worship with them on that day to a feast of traditional African American food after the service is over. All men and boys are being asked to wear black that day."

Bethel Baptist Church presents Attallah Shabazz

February 7, 1998
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Make it to the physical life

By Michael A. Grant, J.D.

The mind's invisibility is the reason that most people never master it. Most of us are Missions at heart: "We believe it when we see it." The need for verification runs smack into its own argument when you think about the existence or non-existence of the wind. You can see its effects and you can feel its pressure against your skin, but you cannot see the wind itself. And, likewise, those who seek verification by visibility are left in a quandary when they try to explain electricity. Again, you can see its effects, but you cannot see electricity.

Suffice it to say that some of the most powerful phenomena known to mankind are related to the physical eye. Our minds fall into this category. And, yet, every great thinker in both Eastern and Western traditions has seen the power and the human mind is without limits and seems capable of doing virtually anything, once it is focused and charged with an intense purpose.

We encourage leaders of compa-

nies to first create a vision that gives the organization direction and then to build a culture of values that respects the dignity of each worker and empowers employees to unleash their efforts' incredible creative energies for the benefit of all.

We encourage a constant exchange of information between managers, associates and workers—sales (i.e., projections, gross receipts, expenditures, bonuses, etc.) so as to create trust in and ownership of the company. If trust and ownership are the norms in an organization, members of the organization are inspired to want to give their best.

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The only way, our families and our communities will ever experience healing and wholeness is for us to validate ourselves by turning within, in discovering and demonstrating our genius and being who God created us to be. Anything less than our best effort is an insult and an affront to the Creator, our ancestors, our contemporaries and our progeny!

Black History Month Calendar

continued from front page

AMERICAN ARTISTS' through February 10th beginning at 3 p.m. in the Student Center Ballroom at Montclair State University. For info, call 973-596-6613.

NEWARK—Africa meets America, an art exhibit of works by African artists will be on display at the African Globe Theater/Works, in Newark, Symphonic Hall. For more info, call 973-624-1984.

EAST ORANGE—African face painting, Wanda the Clown and Story telling for kids will be held from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the Black United Fund. For more info, call 973-676-5293, ext. 17.

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 5

PLAINFIELD—A course, "African American Family Trees," will be discussed by Lucius Bowser, who will tell you how to locate vital records and the value of oral history in your search. This will take place from 1 p.m. to 2:30 p.m. in the United National Community Education Center. For more info, call 908-756-5000.

UPPER MONTCLAIR—"Imperatives of the Legacy" by the Honorable Adelaide Sanford will be presented at noon in the Student Center Ballroom at Montclair State University. African history is free and open to the public. For more info, call 973-655-4333.

WAYNE—"Bob Marley Day," will feature West Indian cuisine and music by the Exodus Stevie Band in the student center ballroom from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the Black United Fund. For more info, call 973-720-2996.

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 6

EAST ORANGE—Activities and an adventurous learning experience for kids will be held from 6 a.m. to 8 p.m. at the Black United Fund. They will also take the kids to the pet Buffalo Zoo. For more info, call 973-676-5293, ext. 17.

NEW YORK—"The History Channel features 'Black Georgetown Remembered' at 9 a.m.

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 7

NEWARK—"The History Channel features 'Abolitionists and the Underground Railroad' at 9 a.m.

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 8

EAST ORANGE—Black issues/black churches/Black, an open discussion for community citizens to talk about the issue concerning them and their neighborhood. Keynote speaker is Rex McKinney. This will be held from 6 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. For more info, call 973-676-5293, ext. 17.

NEW YORK—"The History Channel features 'African Burial Ground,' a four-part mini-series focusing on

NEWARK—"The Legacy, Celebrating African-American Heritage and Dance" honors Langston Hughes, Duke Ellington and Harriet Tubman through February 10th beginning at 3 p.m. in the Billy Johnson Auditorium of The Newark Museum. For more info, call 973-665-6550.

PLAINFIELD—A Black Heritage month art show will be held from 11 a.m. to 8 p.m. at the United Presbyterian Church. For more info, call 908-769-1894.

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 8

EAST ORANGE—Youth Coalition meeting about the 1998 Million Youth March will be held from 4 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. at the Black United Fund. For more info, call 973-676-5293, ext. 17.

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 9

NEWARK—African Storytelling and Face Painting will be held at the Newark Museum from 1 p.m. to 3 p.m. For more info, call 973-666-6337.

UPPER MONTCLAIR—"Africa the Continent: An Educational Exhibit" by Dr. Sandra Lewis will be presented at 12:00 p.m. in the Student Center Ballroom at Montclair State University. For more info, call 973-655-4333.

EDISON—"Slavery: Black Resistance and Struggle" by Sandra Anderson, will be presented at 11 a.m. in room 511, College Center, Middlesex County College. For more info, call 732-906-2656.

NEW YORK—"The History Channel features 'Black Georgetown Remembered' at 9 a.m.

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 10

NEWARK—"The History Channel features 'African Burial Ground,' a four-part mini-series focusing on

Manhattan's Burial Ground at 9 a.m.

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 14

NEWARK—A Celebration: African American Storytelling in Art and Music will be held from 1 to 4 p.m. in The Newark Museum. For more info, call 973-665-6550.

NEWARK—Paul Robeson: A Play with Music, by Philip Hayes Dean will be performed at 2 p.m. in the Billy Johnson Auditorium of The Newark Museum. For more info, call 973-665-6550.

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 15

NEWARK—"The nurturing, positive aspect of community will be addressed in a symposium entitled: 'The Other Mother: Community Empowerment of African-American Women' at the City College of New York. For more info, call 973-665-6550.

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 16

UPPER MONTCLAIR—"The Lessons and Legacy of African American History" by Dr. Sandra Lewis will be presented at noon in the Student Center Ballroom at Montclair State University. African history is free and open to the public. For more info, call 973-655-4333.

NEWARK—"Voices of the Folk" the highly inspiring and entertaining musical revue of Harlem Theater will be held at 8 p.m. in the Billy Johnson Auditorium. The Newark Museum. For more info, call 973-665-6550.

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 22

NEWARK—Experience the thrilling story of Harriet Tubman—the Moses for her people, who led more than 300 slaves to freedom on the Underground Railroad in "Treasure Train" at 11 a.m. for children and adults will begin at 3:00 p.m. in the Billy Johnson Auditorium, The Newark Museum. For more info, call 973-665-6550.

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February 4-February 10, 1998

Health Calendar

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 4

TEANECK—Support Group for Prostate Cancer patients now at Holy Name Hospital. The group will meet at 7:30 p.m. in the hospital's Community Health Services Building. For more info, call 201-937-1650.

NEW BRUNSWICK—A new breastfeeding support group will meet the first and third Wednesdays of each month at Robert Wood Johnson University Hospital from 12:15 p.m. to 1:30 p.m. For more info, call 732-937-8820.

LIVINGSTON—A blood drive will be held from 8 p.m. to 9 p.m. at the St. Barnabas Medical Center. For more info, call 1-800-BLOOD NJ.

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 6

WESTFIELD—The National Council on Alcoholism and Drug Dependence in Union County is offering a two-day workshop from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. on Group Counseling techniques. For more info, call 908-335-8810.

PARSIPPANY—The NJ Division of the American Cancer Society is sponsoring a free breast cancer screening. A lot free line, 1-800-ACS-2345. This free service offers cancer patients, their families, etc. with up-to-date nationwide information about cancer.

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 7

EAST ORANGE—A blood drive will be held from 10:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the Newark United Fund. For more info, call 1-800-BLOOD NJ.

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 10

NEWARK—A blood drive will be held from 12 p.m. to 6 p.m. at St. James Hospital. For more info, call 1-800-BLOOD NJ.

Random drug testing: protects our children

By Robert E. Boase, Ed.D., Executive Director

New Jersey School Boards Association Drug use severely impacts a child's ability to learn. It endangers children's health and safety. In many cases, local school boards need the means to combat the problem.

On this, most people would agree, but when school board members voted at the New Jersey School Boards Association's semi-annual meeting in November to support random drug testing of all students, it seemed to catch many people unaware.

Some people praised the delegates for taking a stand. Others condemned them for going too far, and, inevitably, there were a few who completely misunderstood the delegates' intent. To clear up any misconceptions, let me first explain what the NJSBA action did not mean.

The state's local school boards do not want to line up every one of New Jersey's 1.2 million public school students and force them to submit to urinalysis. Nor are they operating under the presumption that all students are guilty of drug use until proven otherwise.

What the NJSBA delegates voted to support is school districts' ability to administer random drug tests when faced with serious and documented drug problems. The vote reflects their recognition of just how serious the drug problem is. (For example, one delegate related a story of a 15th grader dying of an overdose.) During debate on the issue, it became clear that the delegates were concerned by their obligation to ensure school children's health and safety.

NJSBA's new policy will enable it to submit legal arguments on behalf of local school boards whose random drug testing policies are challenged in court. In addition, the Association can now support behind legislative proposals that explicitly authorize schools to conduct such testing.

The notion that districts must demonstrate a "special need" for such policies is critical to understanding the board members' action. If the U.S. Supreme Court ruling is to be any guide, they would likely have to demonstrate that they tried other ways to combat the problem, and failed.

Approximately eight New Jersey districts have random drug testing policies for student athletes. NJSBA does not foresee its recent vote leading to a sudden surge in this number. At the same time, however, our Association wants school districts facing a drug problem to have an effective option to help ensure the health and safety of their children.

Robert E. Boase, Ed.D. is Executive Director, New Jersey School Boards Association

Thousands of babies born with HIV

ATLANTA—Each day around the world, 1,000 mothers give birth to babies infected with HIV, the virus that causes AIDS. Most come from poor, developing countries. These women, who are infected themselves, have no real prevention options that can help keep them from passing the virus to their unborn children. As a result, many African countries and others in the developing world are watching as 20 years of progress that has been made in reducing the number of children who die during infancy and childhood is virtually wiped out.

This global tragedy is in direct contrast with the situation in the United States and other industrialized nations. In the United States, the number of infants and children with AIDS who are born to HIV-infected mothers has been nearly cut in half in recent years. This is because a research pro-

ject in the United States and France, which ended in 1994 showed that it is possible with a lengthy, complicated regimen of the drug AZT to reduce the number of mothers who pass HIV to their infants during pregnancy and child birth by almost two-thirds.

Government and public health officials in this country then moved very fast to make sure that pregnant women routinely have the chance to be tested to know if they are infected with HIV and, importantly, that this AZT drug regimen—we will call it the U.S. regimen—is routinely made available to the "standard care" for HIV-infected pregnant women in this country and in other industrialized nations.

Because of all these barriers to implementing the U.S. regimen in developing countries, researchers and public health officials from the United States, Europe and developing countries met to agree about ways we could work together to identify solutions to mother-to-infant HIV transmission in the developing world.

These studies have been going as planned in many developing countries for a few years now. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and National Institutes of Health (NIH)—U.S. government agencies—are collaborating with several foreign countries to help them conduct the studies. However, this effort is not without criticism. Most of the arguments have to do with the research design called placebo-controlled trials. What this means is that the studies are designed to give some

of the pregnant women placebos or inactive pills instead of AZT.

Critics of this research believe that all of the women in the studies should be given some amount of AZT. Unfortunately, it's not that easy. There is no way to determine whether or not the drug is safe for use in developing countries if all women in the studies receive AZT. And no one in good conscience wants to recommend widespread use of any regimen of AZT without being sure that it is safe for pregnant women. In addition, we still don't know if the short course regimen will be of any benefit.

Dr. Helene Gayle is director of CDC's National Center for HIV, STD and STD prevention.

Blacks receive less health care than whites

NEW YORK—A recent study from the Federal Centers for Disease Control and Prevention reports that African-Americans receive less and worse health care than whites, meaning that they are sicker than whites and typically die about six or seven years earlier than whites.

While other minority groups suffer from some diseases more than blacks, for decades blacks have suffered higher death rates from diabetes-related diseases, all forms of cancer, heart disease, stroke and tuberculosis.

Limited education, violence, and addiction are partly to blame for the disparity in the quality of health between blacks and whites, but health system analyses are finding growing evidence that race, discrimination and social and cultural factors influence the care people receive.

Research has shown slight, apparently genetic, predisposition among blacks for prostate cancer, sickle cell anemia and underweight births, but the major disparities are more from attitudes toward the races and unequal care than they are from inherent differences among races.

Experts say that the growth of managed care has little effect. Balthus Walker, health policy director for the Joint Center for Political and Economic Studies, which focuses on African-Americans said, "The more we hear about the problems in the health care delivery system and managed care, the more the issues of minorities stand out."

Dr. Donald M. Berwick, a podiatrist and member of President Clinton's commission on health care quality says closing the gap by equalizing services is not enough. "It's not the quality of access. It's the quality of result we should seek."

This is because in hospitals and clinics, blacks often receive worse care than whites. Sam Rensselaer, director of the Center for Health Policy Research at George Washington University illustrates the disparity. "When you take black and white Americans and exactly the same situation like being hospitalized for a heart attack and having the same insurance, the chance that the black patient will get the advanced care is much less than it is for the white patient."

American Heart Association funds research projects

NORTH BRUNSWICK—Thanks to the generosity of the New Jersey public and the commitment of the American Heart Association to research, the battle against cardiovascular disease, New Jersey's No. 1 killer continues today in laboratories in Piscataway, Princeton, Newark, New Brunswick, Browns Mills, Camden, Livingston, Stratford, and other parts of New Jersey. In conjunction with its 50th anniversary as a voluntary health agency and the year-long celebration of 50 years of funding research and finding answers, the American Heart Association recently announced its 1997 research awards for the current fiscal year. Approximately 45 projects totaling more than \$1.1 million are being funded by the American Heart Association, New Jersey Affiliate.

Research grant awards include:

• Eight projects at Princeton University totaling \$164,240.

• Eight projects at UMDNJ New Jersey Medical School in Newark totaling \$232,820.

• Eight projects at UMDNJ Robert Wood Johnson Medical School in Piscataway totaling \$176,500.

• Six projects at UMDNJ Robert Wood Johnson Medical School in New Brunswick totaling \$149,520.

• Three projects at the UMDNJ School of Osteopathic Medicine in Stratford totaling \$98,671.

• Three projects at Rutgers University New Brunswick/Piscataway totaling \$64,920.

• Two projects at Deborah Heart & Lung Center/Deborah Research

Institute in Browns Mills totaling \$60,050.

• Two projects at UMDNJ Robert Wood Johnson/Cooper Hospital in Camden totaling \$65,956.

• A project at St. Barnabas Medical Center in Livingston for \$33,000 and.

• A project at William Paterson College in Wayne for \$9,214.

The American Heart Association believes that basic research is the starting point for all medical advances. During the past 50 years, American Heart Association-funded research has given us lifesaving breakthroughs such as open heart surgery, microcirculation, the pacemaker, heart valve replacement, identification of cholesterol as a risk factor, drug treatment for high blood pressure and congestive heart failure, identification of the harmful effects of smoking and environmental tobacco smoke on heart disease, coronary bypass surgery, cardiomyopathy resuscitation or CPR, and many others.

The challenge is to continue that progress. While the "healthy heart milestones" have been numerous, cardiovascular diseases say heart disease and stroke remain the country's and New Jersey's No. 1 and No. 3 killers. Close to 30,000 people in New Jersey die each year from heart disease and stroke, and too many people continue to face restricted lives because of heart attack or other cardiovascular diseases. The commitment to research must continue and even increase.

Sit up straight; avoid backaches



ISELIN—If your back aches, poor posture may be one of the reasons. Here's a tip from the Arthritis Foundation: When sitting, keep your back straight and shoulders relaxed. Keep stomach muscles pulled in, and maintain the proper curve in your lower back. A small cushion behind the lower back may help. Back pain is one of the most common health problems in America. It can be a symptom of arthritis or many other conditions. For a free brochure about back pain, contact the Arthritis Foundation, New Jersey Chapter, at 732-283-4300 or 800-482-0600.

New '80's number for KidCare program

TRENTON—Under the state's new health funding plan, \$47.7 million has been appropriated to create the New Jersey "KidCare" program, a subsidized health care initiative that will provide coverage for uninsured New Jersey children. Assemblywoman Nia H. Gill is urging all parents to call KidCare's toll-free information number 1-800-701-0710.

"This toll-free number will help parents get important eligibility information and spread the word about health care services to many children," it's critical that parents are kept well informed so they can take the necessary steps to safeguard the health of their children," said Gill.

Children who are eligible to participate in the program will include coverage for well-child visits, preventive medicine, hospitalization, physician care, laboratory testing, prescription drugs and other health care services.

Under the KidCare program, families with incomes below 150 percent of the poverty level will not be required to pay co-payments. For children in families with incomes between 150 percent and 200 percent of poverty level, a small monthly premium will be required.

Residents with telephone telephone service may call 1-800-701-0710, toll free, to inquire more about income eligibility and other program information. The automated system is available 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday.

Under the KidCare program, families with incomes below 150 percent of the poverty level will not be required to pay co-payments. For children in families with incomes between 150 percent and 200 percent of poverty level, a small monthly premium will be required.

Residents with telephone telephone service may call 1-800-701-0710, toll free, to inquire more about income eligibility and other program information. The automated system is available 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday.

State of the art care for diabetic foot ulcers

UNION—Diabetic patients often suffer from foot ulcers, a major health problem affecting 800,000 people each year. For those who suffer from this problem, a new technology has been introduced at Union Hospital, an affiliate of the Saint Barnabas Health Care System. Through the use of Dermagraft, a cultured graft of human skin, the treatment of these types of wounds is being redefined.

Dermagraft is neonatal skin which is cultured invitro on an absorbable mesh. The tissue secretes human collagen, growth factors and proteins which result in an active dermal tissue. Dermagraft is placed on the diabetic foot ulcer in addition to standard care. Because Dermagraft contains living dermal cells, it may function as a replacement for the deeper layer of skin. This will help the growth of the top layer of skin across

the surface. In the initial study, the tissue was applied to the wound once or twice a week and the results were very promising.

"The results in this study show a 50 percent faster recovery rate than previous treatment of diabetic foot ulcers," explained Joel Lerner, D.P.M., a Podiatrist at Union Hospital who is participating in the study.

The results of the study were released by the Advanced Tissue Sciences, a tissue engineering company which utilizes its technology for repair and transplantation purposes. "This new procedure can aid the millions of diabetic foot ulcer sufferers in the community and offer new hope to those with chronic pain," said Dr. Lerner.

For more information about this new procedure or other treatments, call Dr. Lerner at (908) 688-2111.

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ARTZ Wednesday

City News 8

February 4-February 10, 1998

Billboard

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 6

NEW YORK—African Festival: Drumming and Dances of Ghana - OODADAI will be performed 8 p.m. at Symphony Space. For more info, call 212-542-7538.

WOODBRIDGE—The All Seasons Chamber Players will perform a special program of chamber music entitled "All Seasons Greetings" in the historic Barron Arts Center at 8 p.m. For more info, call 732-634-0413.

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 7
NEW YORK—African Festival: Sounds of Nubia will be performed at 8 p.m. at Symphony Space. For more info, call 212-542-7538.

NEW YORK—The Skatalites will perform at 8:45 p.m. and 11:45 p.m. at The Knitting Factory. For more info, call 212-603-3950.

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 8
NEWARK—Sounds of Portugal will be performed at The Newark Museum 1:30 p.m. For more info, call 1-800-ALLEGRO.

NEW YORK—The String Trio of New York chamber jazz ensemble brings their blend of jazz classics to the Walter Reed Theater at 11 p.m. as part of Great Performers at Lincoln Center's "Sunday Mornings at 11" one-hour concert with coffee series. For more info, call 212-655-7700.

CLINTON—The Magellan String Quartet will perform at the Hudson Museum of Art at 3 p.m. For more info, call 908-733-8415.

WAYNE—Mike Stern brings his exciting blend of bebop and contemporary guitar styles to the Shea Center stage. For more info, call 973-720-2371.

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 12
PRINCETON—Cassandra Wilson, jazz vocalist will perform at the McCarter Theatre Center for the Performing Arts at 8 p.m. For more info, call 609-683-8100.

NEWARK—Jazz legend, Chick Corea, will make his debut at the NJ Performing Arts Center at 8 p.m. For more info, call 1-800-252-3475.

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 13
NEWARK—Spirituals, gospel, blues, and jazz will be performed at the NJ Performing Arts Center at 7 p.m. For more info, call 973-642-0404.

NEWARK—Return to the Source performs at 7:00 p.m. at the NJ Performing Arts Center's Victoria Theater. For more info, call 1-888-GO-NJPAC.

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 14
SOMERVILLE—The Dirty Dozen will perform 8 p.m. at The Theater at Raritan Valley Community College. For more info, call 908-725-3420.

SUNDAY—FEBRUARY 15
MAPLEWOOD—The "Walden Trip", Brahms - Quartet in C Minor for piano and strings will perform at Prospect Presbyterian Church at 3:30 p.m. and 8 p.m. For more info, call 973-762-8486.

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 20
NEW BRUNSWICK—"To Kill a Mockingbird" will be performed at the George Street Playhouse. For more info, call 732-634-0413.

SUNDAY, MARCH 8
NEWARK—A tribute to George Walker in celebration of his 75th birthday. This diamond jubilee will be held 1:30 p.m. at The Newark Museum. For more info, call 1-800-ALLEGRO.

FRIDAY, MAY 8
NEWPORT NEWS—Ella Fitzgerald's hometown of Newport News pays tribute to her legacy in jazz during a 2-day celebration of performances by internationally acclaimed artists at the Christopher Newport University at 7 p.m. For more info, call 757-664-6492.

SATURDAY, MAY 9
VIRGINIA BEACH—A Multicultural Festival, a 2-day celebration of "Harmony in Diversity" will be held at the 24th Street Park through May 10th from 1 p.m. to 5 p.m. For more info, call 757-664-6492.

NEWPORT NEWS—Ella Fitzgerald's hometown of Newport News pays tribute to her legacy in jazz during a 2-day celebration of performances by internationally acclaimed artists at the Christopher Newport University at 4 p.m. and 8 p.m. For more info, call 757-664-6492.

SUNDAY, MAY 10
VIRGINIA BEACH—Glady's Knight and the Virginia Symphony will perform at the GTE Amphitheater 7:30 p.m. For more info, call 757-664-6490.

Advertise your parties, show, and other events in **ARTZ WEDNESDAY**
Call 908-754-3400



Clifton Powell

By Pat Kramer

For Clifton Powell, an actor with a broad background in improvisation, his role as the mercenary Mason in Hollywood Pictures' action/thriller "Deep Rising," was a stellar opportunity for him to show off his talents.

A prolific actor, Powell has been honing his craft since he got his first taste of performing in the 10th grade while attending the Workshop for Careers in the Arts, where actors including Debbie Allen taught young

Clifton Powell focuses on doing good work

inner city kids dance long before his television series "Fame" brought it to the American public. During that summer, Powell decided rather than being a basketball star, he wanted to become an actor.

In 1986, Newark-based writer Richard Wesley cast him in "The Mighty Jets," providing another year of the theatrical work as part of a national tour. Then he decided it was time to put the pedal to the metal and make a move to the West Coast.

He appeared in such series as "Equal Justice," "A Tour of Duty," "Murder, She Wrote," and "Roc." The latter was a turning point in his career and paved the way for guest-starring roles on other programs such as "New York Undercover," "Touched By An Angel," "MYD Blue," "In the Heat of the Night" and recurring roles on "South Central" and "Sinbad." Television work led to film roles, including "Dead Presidents," in the latter Hughes Brothers film he was cast as Anty, a pimp/hustler who serves as a cutthroat to the film's main character Anthony Curtis (Larenz Tate).

In "Deep Rising," Powell plays

Welcome ARTZ columnist Asondra Hunter

By Zoe Zai-Benet

"No matter how much interest, time and energy I devote to media training, reading or planning special events, my heart never veers too far away from the reason why I got into the entertainment business—I simply love to write," says City News' new arts and entertainment columnist Asondra R. Hunter. "Sharing ideas, editing my peers and enlightening readers gives me an untangible place of satisfaction," adds the Jersey City resident.

Raised by two hard-working parents, Claire and Willie Hunter, Asondra, a university of Washington graduate, learned the importance of pursuing her artistic aspirations from an early age. Eager to translate her ideas to peers in the middle class Tacoma, Washington neighborhood in which she was raised, through backyard theater performances the widowed child was able to put her notions into motion.

Athletic prowess obviously runs in the family. Asondra's uncle, football great Ahmad Rashad, is a sportscaster for NBC and the host for the popular television show, "Inside Stuff." Her younger brother David is an accomplished golfer and her cousin, Michael Moore, is a professional baseball player. "I'd be remiss if I didn't take a second to mention my father's role in my life," she reflects back to the days when she and Pops played catch in the park. "He worked for the City of Tacoma after serving twenty years in the Army. He's now deceased, but I'd like to thank him for being the first one to teach me how to swing a bat. Dad's undoubtedly proud of me today, because although he dabbled in poetry, he never pursued his writing professionally. He did, however, instill positive work ethic in my brother and I so, stopping short of my goals, occupational or otherwise, would be unthinkable."

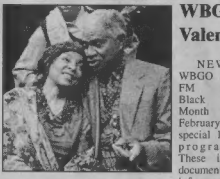
Asondra has written for and still contributes to many national magazines and newspapers: Vibe, The Village Voice, Seconds, The East Coast Rocker, The Aquarian Weekly, Launch, Upscale, Today's Black Woman, Good Love, Manhattan Resident, Easley, New York Latino.



Sean "Puffy" Combs is just one of the subjects Asondra Hunter has covered.

Jersey Journal, Curio, BBE, Spice, Word Up, Black Elegance, Silhouette, One World, Black Belle, Belle, The Source, DJ Times and Rap Pages. Last year she did an additional reporting on her late but not forgotten friend Christopher "Biggie Small" Wallace for Spin, wrote a feature on Whitney Houston for New Jersey Monthly, a cover story on Brandy for Creative Designer, and a KRS ONE feature for Time Out New York. Furthermore, she is the Features Editor at Large for Signature Bride magazine.

Journalism is the National Association of Black Journalists' member's career choice, but meeting new people is her hobby. This avocation has taken her to Germany, Spain, France, Tobago, Jamaica, Canada, and The Bahamas. "I love to travel," she confesses. "I'm going to Ocho Rios next week to see my friend LaVerne Perry and her husband reaffirm their marriage vows. After that, it's back to the daily grind. Keeping in touch with publicists about what's going on in television, film and music and making sure I'm at all the important special events. One thing's for sure, I'll keep City News readers in mind when I'm on the prowl for interesting news bits and scintillating scoop! The huntress always serves good dish!"



Rosewood and a Valentine's Day special with Ruby Dee and Ossie Davis.

The hour-long documentary *Rosewood Reborn* chronicles the true story of the all-black Florida town that perished under attack of white neighboring avengers. WBGO Jazz 88.3 FM broadcasts the award-winning Public Radio

WBGO Rosewood documentary and Valentine's special hosted by Davis and Dee

NEWARK—WBGO Jazz 88.3 FM celebrates Black History Month this February with a special line-up of program and events. These include a documentary on the infamous town

International program on Friday, February 6, 6-7 p.m. The distressing story of false accusations and injustice includes testimonies from survivors and participants. Narrated by James Earl Jones, the program traces the fateful event from its beginning in 1923 to 70 years later when two survivors successfully filed suit against the state of Florida.

One of America's most inseparable couples, Ruby Dee and Ossie Davis team up to host My Funny Valentine, a celebration of Valentine's Day with classic American love songs and romantic poetry. WBGO presents this hour-long program on Sunday, February 8 at 1 p.m. My Funny Valentine features love songs from the 1920s-1990s, including Duke Ellington's *I'm Beginning to See the Light*, George Gershwin's *Lady Be Good*, Thelma Houston's *Ruby, My Dear* and of course Rogers and Hart's *My Funny Valentine*. In their narration, Dee and Davis intertwine 20th-century American love poetry written by Langston Hughes, e. e. cummings, Nikki Giovanni, Alice Walker and Audre Lorde.

Cassandra Wilson and McCoy Tyner at NJPAC

NEWARK—In a musical summit meeting of two of the brightest stars of contemporary jazz, vocalist Cassandra Wilson with special guest the McCoy Tyner Trio (McCoy Tyner, piano; Avery Sharp, bass; Aaron Scott, drums) will perform in a double bill of reinvented jazz. Wilson, the premier female jazz vocalist whose 1996 genre-busting *Note CD Blue Moon Daughter* garnered resounding critical and commercial acclaim, pre-empted places from her latest CD *New Daughter*. Renowned contemporary acoustic pianist and composer McCoy Tyner will perform with his trio. The concert will take place on Saturday, February 14 at 8 pm at NJPAC's Prudential Hall.

For ticket information call 1-888-GO-NJPAC.



Cassandra Wilson

McCoy Tyner

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CASSANDRA WILSON

with Special Guest **OLU DAR**
An evening of "reinvented standards"

With a voice like liquefied amber, Cassandra Wilson is indisputably the most important jazz vocalist to emerge in the last decade — heir to the great tradition of Billie Holiday, Sarah Vaughan and Ella Fitzgerald.

Thursday, February 12 8 pm

Sponsored by

FREE EVENT!

THREE VIEWS

Langston Hughes, the Poet Laureate of the Harlem Renaissance, wrote of love, home and what it meant to be a part of this nation, but still be an outsider. Gary Bixson and pianist Vince Dimun join powerful words, music and dramatic narrative together in an entertaining and educational program.

At Barnes and Noble Bookstore, Princeton Marketplace

Tuesday, February 17 7 pm

Sponsored by

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"Unique, extraordinary and authentic... an exceptional voice in the American theater." — Glenn Close

A vivid and moving account of a childhood friendship put to the test by the "gimmicks" of inner city survival.

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Hoop Diving! Plate Spinning! Bowl Balancing! Pole Climbing! Lion Dances!

Direct from the Peoples Republic of China, this hand-selected troupe presents an unforgettable performance in the spirit of a Chinese carnival.

Tuesday, February 24 8 pm

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24 hours a day

Legal Notice

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS

ARCHITECTURAL AND ENGINEERING SERVICES

The Housing Authority of the Town of Morrisroe is seeking multi-disciplined architectural and engineering firms to provide professional services for the implementation of work items included in the Comprehensive Grant Program (COP) as follows:

1. NJ22-1, NJ22-2, and NJ22-3: replacement of underground water and heat distribution lines. Budget amount: \$253,000.
2. NJ23-1 (8 buildings): replacement of roofs, windows, siding and gutters. Budget amount: \$250,000.
3. NJ23-2 (4 buildings): replacement of windows, siding and gutters. Budget amount: \$100,000.
4. NJ23-2: upgrade heating and domestic hot water boilers. Budget amount: \$150,000.
5. NJ23-5: A/E feasibility study on converting efficiency apartments to one (1) bedroom apartments.
6. NJ23-6: Total roof replacement. Budget amount: \$200,000.

Interested A/E firms are invited to contact Christopher Martin, Modernization Director, at 1-732-292-4140 if there are any questions on construction terms.

Specifications can be obtained at the Administrative Offices of the Morrisroe Housing Authority, 31 Early Street, Morrisroe, NJ during regular business hours or can be obtained by calling: 973-558-6344.

Two (2) copies of proposal must be submitted no later than 3:00 p.m. on Friday, February 13, 1998.

David Gardner
Executive Director

\$93.20

ADVERTISMENT

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS

ENVIRONMENTAL CONSULTING SERVICES

The Casino Reinvestment Development Authority (CRDA) is seeking proposals from qualified environmental consulting firms for work as required by CRDA. (A) to provide site assessment reports as to the environmental condition of properties which the CRDA acquires; (B) to provide oversight of remediation work which may be required at those properties and provide remedial action reports; and (C) to provide general consultation on environmental issues.

If awarded a contract, your company/firm will be required to comply with the requirements of P.L. 1975, c. 127 (N.J.A.C. 17:27) (Law Against Discrimination in Public Contracts).

If the firm to which the contract is awarded is not already a Minority Business Enterprise (MBE) or a Woman-owned Business Enterprise (WBE), certified as such by the New Jersey Department of Commerce, then the firm will be required to subcontract at least one MBE or WBE. Sub-contractors, or good faith efforts as required in N.J.A.C. 17:14-4.3 (2)(a)-(d), must be met if the firm is not already an MBE or WBE. Applications and questions regarding eligibility as an MBE or WBE may be directed to the New Jersey Department of Commerce's Seal, Aside and Certification Office, 20 West State Street, CN 835, Trenton, New Jersey 08625-0335, 609-984-9824.

A mandatory pre-bid conference will be held at 10:00 a.m. on Friday, February 6, 1998 at CRDA's offices located at 1014 Atlantic Avenue, Atlantic City, NJ. Copies of the Request for Proposals will be distributed at the mandatory conference.

Proposals will be required to be received by the CRDA by 4:00 p.m. on Monday, February 23, 1998. No late proposals will be accepted.

Questions are to be directed to:

Daniel J. Saut
Casino Reinvestment Development Authority
1014 Atlantic Avenue
Atlantic City, NJ 08401
609-347-0500

\$110.50

ADVERTISMENT

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS

ENVIRONMENTAL REMEDIATION SERVICES

The Casino Reinvestment Development Authority (CRDA) is seeking proposals from qualified environmental remediation firms for work as required by CRDA to provide services to remove, abate, investigate and/or clean up contaminated areas and/or underground tanks and to provide soil remediation services.

HELP WANTED

INTERNAL AUDITOR

The New Jersey Highway Authority, which operates the Garden State Parkway, has an exciting opportunity available for an Internal Auditor to perform operational and financial audits in the Highway Authority. The ideal candidate should have a Bachelor's degree in accounting or a related field, minimum of 3 years auditing experience, be a self-starter, fast learner, and possess strong interpersonal, organizational and interpersonal skills. P.C. proficiency in a Microsoft Office environment is a plus. Send resume with cover letter and salary requirements by 2/15/98 to:

NJ Highway Authority
P.O. Box 5020
Woodbridge, NJ 07095-5050
Attn: Human Resources

ADVERTISMENT

Applications are now being accepted for the New Jersey Department of Personnel's examination for entry level law enforcement titles, including Municipal Police Officer.

Applications can be picked up at the Clerk's Office, Department 24 hours a day at the Business Administration's Office in Town Hall, 420 Westfield Avenue, at the Clark Public Library during normal business hours. The last date for filing applications is February 10, 1998. Applicants must be at least 18 years of age and no more than 35 at the time of filing.

At this time, no positions are open for Police Officer in Clark Township. Clark Township seeks to attract qualified persons regardless of race. Clark Township is an Equal Opportunity Employer.

services at properties which the CRDA may acquire in the City of Atlantic City, NJ.

If awarded a contract, your company/firm will be required to comply with the requirements of P.L. 1975, c. 127 (N.J.A.C. 17:27) (Law Against Discrimination in Public Contracts).

If the firm to which the contract is awarded is not already a Minority Business Enterprise (MBE) or a Woman-owned Business Enterprise (WBE), certified as such by the New Jersey Department of Commerce, then the firm will be required to subcontract at least one MBE or WBE. Sub-contractors, or good faith efforts as required in N.J.A.C. 17:14-4.3 (2)(a)-(d), must be met if the firm is not already an MBE or WBE. Applications and questions regarding eligibility as an MBE or WBE may be directed to the New Jersey Department of Commerce's Seal, Aside and Certification Office, 20 West State Street, CN 835, Trenton, New Jersey 08625-0335, 609-984-9824.

A mandatory pre-bid conference will be held at 3:00 p.m. on Friday, February 6, 1998 at CRDA's offices located at 1014 Atlantic Avenue, Atlantic City, NJ. Copies of the Request for Proposals will be distributed at the mandatory conference.

Proposals will be required to be received by the CRDA by 4:00 p.m. on Monday, February 23, 1998. No late proposals will be accepted.

Questions are to be directed to:

George W. Jones
Casino Reinvestment Development Authority
1014 Atlantic Avenue
Atlantic City, NJ 08401
609-347-0500

\$104.00

ADVERTISMENT

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS

FROM MBE FIRMS FOR ASBESTOS ABATEMENT

The Casino Reinvestment Development Authority (CRDA) is seeking proposals from qualified asbestos abatement firms for work as required by CRDA to provide asbestos abatement for properties throughout Atlantic City, NJ.

If awarded a contract, your company/firm will be required to comply with the requirements of P.L. 1975, c. 127 (N.J.A.C. 17:27) (Law Against Discrimination in Public Contracts).

This will be a mandatory self-aside contract for award to an MBE firm. To be eligible you must be certified by the State of New Jersey Department of Commerce & Economic Development, as a Minority Business Enterprise.

A mandatory pre-bid conference will be held at 10:00 a.m. on Friday, February 6, 1998 at CRDA's offices located at 1014 Atlantic Avenue, Atlantic City, NJ. Copies of the Request for Proposals will be distributed at the mandatory conference.

Proposals will be required to be received by the CRDA by 4:00 p.m. on Monday, February 23, 1998. No late proposals will be accepted.

Questions are to be directed to:

Charles Emanuel
Casino Reinvestment Development Authority
1014 Atlantic Avenue
Atlantic City, NJ 08401
609-347-0500

\$45.50

ADVERTISMENT

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS

FROM MBE OR WBE FIRMS FOR ASBESTOS INSPECTIONS, OVERSIGHT & CONSULTATION

The Casino Reinvestment Development Authority (CRDA) is seeking proposals from qualified asbestos consulting firms for work as required by CRDA to provide inspections to identify asbestos-containing material, oversight of asbestos removal, and asbestos consultation, for properties throughout Atlantic City, NJ.

If awarded a contract, your company/firm will be required to comply with the requirements of P.L. 1975, c. 127 (N.J.A.C. 17:27) (Law Against Discrimination in Public Contracts).

This will be a mandatory self-aside contract for award to an MBE or WBE firm. To be eligible you must be certified by the State of New Jersey Department of Commerce & Economic Development, as a Minority Business Enterprise or a Woman-owned Business Enterprise.

A mandatory pre-bid conference will be held at 3:00 a.m. on Friday, February 6, 1998 at CRDA's offices located at 1014 Atlantic Avenue, Atlantic City, NJ. Copies of the Request for Proposals will be distributed at the mandatory conference.

Proposals will be required to be received by the CRDA by 4:00 p.m. on Monday, February 23, 1998. No late proposals will be accepted.

Questions are to be directed to:

New Jersey Highway Authority
P.O. Box 5020
Woodbridge, NJ 07095-5050
Attn: Human Resources

EOE

"GRAPHIC DESIGNER"

Must know QuarkXpress and Photoshop on PC or MAC platforms and have two years experience working with Newspaper layout.

Send resume to:
City News Personnel
PO Box 1774, Plainfield, NJ 07060

located at 1014 Atlantic Avenue, Atlantic City, NJ. Copies of the Request for Proposals will be distributed at the mandatory conference.

Proposals will be required to be received by the CRDA by 4:00 p.m. on Monday, February 23, 1998. No late proposals will be accepted.

Questions are to be directed to:

Charles Emanuel
Casino Reinvestment Development Authority
1014 Atlantic Avenue
Atlantic City, NJ 08401
609-347-0500

\$91.00

ADVERTISMENT

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS

REAL ESTATE TITLE SERVICES ON AN AS-NEEDED BASIS

The Casino Reinvestment Development Authority (CRDA) is seeking proposals from qualified title insurance companies to perform title insurance services as required by CRDA related to properties which the CRDA may acquire in the City of Atlantic City, NJ.

If awarded a contract, your company/firm will be required to comply with the requirements of P.L. 1975, c. 127 (N.J.A.C. 17:27) (Law Against Discrimination in Public Contracts).

A mandatory pre-bid conference will be held at 10:00 a.m. on Thursday, February 5, 1998 at CRDA's offices located at 1014 Atlantic Avenue, Atlantic City, NJ. Copies of the Request for Proposals will be distributed at the mandatory conference.

Proposals will be required to be received by the CRDA by 4:00 p.m. on Monday, February 23, 1998. No late proposals will be accepted.

Questions are to be directed to:

Daniel J. Saut
Casino Reinvestment Development Authority
1014 Atlantic Avenue
Atlantic City, NJ 08401
609-347-0500

\$70.20

ADVERTISMENT

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS

REAL ESTATE APPRAISAL SERVICES ON AN AS-NEEDED BASIS

The Casino Reinvestment Development Authority (CRDA) is seeking proposals from qualified real estate appraisers to perform real estate appraisal services as required by CRDA related to properties which the CRDA may acquire in the City of Atlantic City, NJ.

If awarded a contract, your company/firm will be required to comply with the requirements of P.L. 1975, c. 127 (N.J.A.C. 17:27) (Law Against Discrimination in Public Contracts).

A mandatory pre-bid conference will be held at 11:00 a.m. on Thursday, February 5, 1998 at CRDA's offices located at 1014 Atlantic Avenue, Atlantic City, NJ. Copies of the Request for Proposals will be distributed at the mandatory conference.

Proposals will be required to be received by the CRDA by 4:00 p.m. on Monday, February 23, 1998. No late proposals will be accepted.

Questions are to be directed to:

Daniel J. Saut
Casino Reinvestment Development Authority
1014 Atlantic Avenue
Atlantic City, NJ 08401
609-347-0500

\$74.10

ADVERTISMENT

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS

CONSTRUCTION MONITORING SERVICES INCLUDING ON-SITE INSPECTION ON AN AS-NEEDED BASIS

The Casino Reinvestment Development Authority (CRDA) is seeking proposals from qualified construction monitoring firms for construction project monitoring services as required by CRDA related to the development of properties in the City of Atlantic City. This work involves collection and review of contract documentation, verification of invoices, progress reports, etc. for CRDA as a construction order, this

work is not construction management.

If awarded a contract, your company/firm will be required to comply with the requirements of P.L. 1975, c. 127 (N.J.A.C. 17:27) (Law Against Discrimination in Public Contracts).

A mandatory pre-bid conference will be held at 2:00 p.m. on Thursday, February 5, 1998 at CRDA's offices located at 1014 Atlantic Avenue, Atlantic City, NJ. Copies of the Request for Proposals will be distributed at the mandatory conference.

Proposals will be required to be received by the CRDA by 4:00 p.m. on Monday, February 23, 1998. No late proposals will be accepted.

Questions are to be directed to:

Kenneth Reese
Casino Reinvestment Development Authority
1014 Atlantic Avenue
Atlantic City, NJ 08401
609-347-0500

\$84.50

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS

AUDIT SERVICES

The Auditory Park, Housing Authority of the City of Auditory Park, New Jersey (the "PAH"), is requesting proposals from qualified firms to conduct an audit of its financial books and records for the twelve (12) month period ending March 31, 1998. The audit will be conducted according to the requirements of the Single Audit Act of 1984, OMB Circular A-133 such other requirements as may be promulgated by the United States Department of Housing and Urban Development or the State of New Jersey.

Proposals must be made on the proposal format available from the PAH. Interested parties can obtain a proposal format by calling (732) 774-2660 X313.

Proposals should be received in an original and sealed envelope, not later than 10 a.m., February 27, 1998, at the following address and clearly marked "Auditor Search".

Auditory Park Housing Authority
1500 1/2 Third Ave.
Auditory Park, NJ 07712

\$73.20

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS

GENERAL LEGAL COUNSEL

The Housing Authority of the City of Auditory Park is seeking proposals from attorneys or law firms to serve as the Authority's General Legal Counsel for the period commencing April 1, 1998 and terminating March 31, 1999. Applicants submitting proposals to the RFP must be licensed to practice law in the State of New Jersey and must not be under suspension from RUD.

Parties interested in submitting a proposal in response to the RFP should contact the Executive Director's office at (732) 774-2660 X313, between the hours of 9:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m., weekdays and request a detailed RFP, which will more fully state the requirements of the proposal. Proposals must be received by 10:00 a.m., February 27, 1998, in order to be considered.

CLAUDIA A. SWEENEY
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

\$43.10

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS

FEE ACCOUNTING SERVICES

The Housing Authority of the City of Auditory Park is seeking proposals for Fee Accounting for its Low Income Housing Program, Existing Housing Certificates Program, Moderate Rehabilitation Program, Voucher Program, Modernization Program, and Public Housing Drug Elimination Program for the period April 1, 1998 to terminating March 31, 1999.

Parties interested in submitting proposals in response to the RFP should contact the Executive Director's office at (732) 774-2660 X313, between the hours of 9:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m., weekdays and request a detailed RFP, which will more fully state the requirements of the proposal. Proposals must be received by 10:00 a.m., February 27, 1998 in order to be considered.

CLAUDIA A. SWEENEY
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

\$43.10

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:

Under the terms of the "Open Public Meetings Act" P.L. 1975 c. 231, there will be a Special Meeting Monday, February 9, 1998, 7:00 p.m., in the Freshkills Meeting Room, Sixth Floor, County Administration Building, Elizabeth, New Jersey.

FOR THE PURPOSE: Public Hearing and Final Adoption of Bond Ordinance No. 98-01.

BY ORDER OF THE UNION COUNTY BOARD OF CHOSEN FREEDOMERS.

M. Elizabeth Gernreich
Clerk of the Board

\$31.20

LEGAL NOTICE

ESSEX COUNTY BOARD OF TAXATION

110 SOUTH GROVE STREET, EAST ORANGE, NJ
Please take notice that the Essex County Board of Taxation has cancelled the Thursday, February 5, 1998 monthly board meeting. The next board meeting will take place on Thursday, March 5, 1998 at 9:30 a.m.

George F. Librizzi, Tax Administrator

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HELP WANTED

INTERNAL AUDITOR

The New Jersey Highway Authority, which operates the Garden State Parkway, has an exciting opportunity available for an Internal Auditor to perform operational and financial audits in the Highway Authority. The ideal candidate should have a Bachelor's degree in accounting or a related field, minimum of 3 years auditing experience, be a self-starter, fast learner, and possess strong interpersonal, organizational and interpersonal skills. P.C. proficiency in a Microsoft Office environment is a plus. Send resume with cover letter and salary requirements by 2/15/98 to:

NJ Highway Authority
P.O. Box 5020
Woodbridge, NJ 07095-5050
Attn: Human Resources

ADVERTISMENT

Applications are now being accepted for the New Jersey Department of Personnel's examination for entry level law enforcement titles, including Municipal Police Officer.

Applications can be picked up at the Clerk's Office, Department 24 hours a day at the Business Administration's Office in Town Hall, 420 Westfield Avenue, at the Clark Public Library during normal business hours. The last date for filing applications is February 10, 1998. Applicants must be at least 18 years of age and no more than 35 at the time of filing.

At this time, no positions are open for Police Officer in Clark Township. Clark Township seeks to attract qualified persons regardless of race. Clark Township is an Equal Opportunity Employer.

HELP WANTED

SYSTEM ENGINEER

The New Jersey Highway Authority is seeking an individual to fill the position of System Engineer. The individual will prepare requests for proposals, specifications and plans for systems used in toll collection and intelligent transportation. The individual will also participate in the design, development and project teams to analyze, investigate and implement new systems and improve existing systems.

The position requires a Bachelor's degree in Electrical Engineering. The candidate must have three years experience in the analysis and design of toll collection or process control systems. The candidate must possess an understanding of network fundamentals, routers, floor optic communication technology and computer languages for toll reader Modems, CPUs, Graphics User Interface used in Windows and UNIX environments. The candidate must have the ability to effectively communicate, both orally and writing and must be able to read, interpret and relate electrical, mechanical, and engineering plans. Candidates must forward cover letter, resume and salary requirements by 2/15/98 to:

New Jersey Highway Authority
P.O. Box 5020
Woodbridge, NJ 07095-5050
Attn: Human Resources

"GRAPHIC DESIGNER"

Must know QuarkXpress and Photoshop on PC or MAC platforms and have two years experience working with Newspaper layout.

Send resume to:
City News Personnel
PO Box 1774, Plainfield, NJ 07060

HELP WANTED

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

The Housing Authority of the City of East Orange is currently seeking an E.D. to direct an agency with approximately 450 units (family and elderly/conversion) and 400 units of Section 8 certificates, 170 units of Section 8 vouchers, and 100 portable. Applicants must have at least 5 years experience in public administration, public finance, realty or similar professional experience. Candidates must either possess or within one year obtain PHM certification or equivalent certification. Must have excellent communications skills, proven leadership ability, ability to deal effectively with staff, students and support organizations. Other requirements include strong supervisory experience, a proven ability to work cooperatively with Board and with neighborhood groups. Must have thorough knowledge of HUD rules, regs. and guidelines. Bachelor's degree in Public Administration or Social science or other approved program. Attainment of a master's degree in an appropriate program may substitute for two years experience. Salary commensurate with qualifications. Send letter of interest, resume, salary requirements, and salary history for past 3 years and list of at least 3 references by February 10, 1998 to:

Leo P. D'Amico, Search Consultant
Power Associates, Inc.
30 Shady Lane
Needham Heights, MA 02459
(781) 448-1300

PUBLISHING INTERN

Seeking all majors for 3 available internships. College students in seeking to students who have excellent writing ability, computer and research skills. Duties will also include filing, mailing and light office work. Opportunity for paid employment during summer months.

Send resume to:
City News Personnel
PO Box 1774, Plainfield, NJ 07060

HELP WANTED

Graphic Designer

Must know QuarkXpress and Photoshop on PC or MAC platforms and have two years experience working with Newspaper layout.

Send resume to:
City News Personnel
PO Box 1774, Plainfield, NJ 07060

Photographer

Freelance photographers wanted to cover events throughout New Jersey. Reimbursed for travel expenses. Must be responsible. Developing not necessary. We supply film. Willing to work with new photographers.

Send resume and preferred work hours to:
City News Personnel
PO Box 1774, Plainfield, NJ 07060

Teacher, educator

To write and edit a 4-page, monthly National Teacher's Guide. At least two years of teaching experience necessary, preferably grades 6 and up. Send resume to: Y Teacher's Guide, P.O. Box 191, Plainfield, NJ 07060

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Local Briefs

Local social club honor member by contributing \$60,000 to education

ENGLEWOOD—The Englewood Social Club recently celebrated its 30th Anniversary by honoring its only active and distinguished founding member, Mr. Whittie English, Jr. at the Club's formal Annual Cocktail Party and Dinner event. More than 350 guests attended the event.

As a tribute to the honoree, the organization will donate \$60,000 to The College Fund/UNCF to assist economically disadvantaged students meet their educational needs.

English resides in Teaneck with his wife Lavina. He is presently CEO of English Realty Associates which he has been in business for 46 years. He served as an Army Signal Corp officer during World War II and trained with the all Black 99th Tuskegee Pursuit Squadron known as the "Tuskegee Army." He has many affiliations including the Bergen County Housing Authority where he served as Commissioner and Chairman; Board membership of the Bergen County Urban League and is an active member of the N.A.A.C.P.

While social activity is a primary focus of the Englewood Social Club, it has made philanthropic gifts to many worthy causes including, Mary Medical College, Sloan Kettering Institute, N.A.A.C.P. Legal Defense Fund, Shaw University, Tuskegee Institute, Boys Club of New York, The Englewood Infant-Senior Sharing Project and the N.A.A.C.P.

The second contribution to The College Fund/UNCF in four years stresses the Club's focus on the placement of education at the top of its commitment list.

Muhlenberg School of Nursing receives scholarship grants from corporate community

PLAINFIELD—Muhlenberg Regional Medical Center School of Nursing recently received scholarship grants from L.A. Dreyfus Company, in Edison, and First Union National Bank, in Summit.

For the fourth consecutive year, L.A. Dreyfus Company has awarded a grant to the school. The L.A. Dreyfus scholarship grant is subsidized by the Wm. Wrigley Jr. Company Foundation which seeks to support nursing education programs in schools throughout the country that are in close proximity to the company's facilities. "L.A. Dreyfus, a wholly-owned subsidiary of the Chicago-based Wm. Wrigley Jr. Company, has become a tremendous supporter of Muhlenberg's School of Nursing as well as Muhlenberg Regional Medical Center," said Judith Matthews, RN, Dean, Schools of Nursing and Allied Health. "We were honored to once again be chosen to receive this grant."

NHA to Begin construction for 100 new townhouse units

NEWARK—The Newark Housing Authority (NHA) recently continuing its aggressive program to increase the availability of quality, affordable housing in the city with the official construction start of a new, 100-unit scattered site townhouse development in a special ceremony at 15th Avenue and South 12th Street where 21 of the new units will be constructed.

Newark Mayor Sharpe James, members of the Newark Municipal Council and representatives from the U.S. Department of Housing & Urban Development as well as business and community leaders were among those marking the occasion hosted by NHA Executive Director Harold Lucas and the NHA Board of Commissioners.

"This groundbreaking represents the NHA's continuing and unabated effort at improving public housing in Newark and contributing to the city's growth," said Lucas. "The construction of this new development will afford more NHA families the opportunity to enhance their quality of life. More specifically, these 100 units will provide residents with a decent place

to live and raise their families and will engage them in a sense of pride in their new homes.

"This project represents the seventh such development initiated by the NHA since 1993 and the construction of approximately 1,000 new scattered site townhouses located throughout the city," Lucas continued.

The development, known as N12-43, will be situated in Newark's Central Ward. In addition to the 21 units on South 12th Street, there will be 19 units on 15th Avenue and South 10th Street, and 23 units on 15th Avenue and South 11th Street. In addition, 14 units will be located on 15th Avenue and South 13th Street, 23 units on Pearl Street and a community room will be built on 15th Avenue and South 14th Street.

"The NHA is working vigorously to transform the face of public housing in Newark, and our efforts are coming to fruition because of the strong support and collaboration that we have received from city officials, especially Mayor James, HUD and the business community," said Mr. Lucas.



Newark Mayor Sharpe James, third from left, joins Newark Housing Authority Director Harold Lucas, fourth from left, NHA Commissioners, Dr. Rolando Velazquez, Ida Clark, Gloria L. Cartwright and Congressman Donald Payne at a ceremony which launched the NHA's construction of a 100-unit new scattered site townhouse development in the city's Central Ward.

He added that Bellemared Newark Development Corporation is the developer for the 100 townhouse units. The cost of the development is \$107 million.

Spelman President speaks to North Jersey students



Dr. Johnnetta Cole

NEWARK—North Jersey high school students were invited to attend a presentation at the New Jersey Performing Arts Center (NJ-PAC) by one of the world's most steadfast advocates for people of color and women, Dr. Johnnetta B. Cole. Dr. Cole presented her address on Monday, February 2 at 10 a.m. The morning program began with a performance by the Plainfield High School Chorus and two soloists from Newark's Arts High School—Ciana Henderson and Diana Hall. The Airforce ROTC Color Guard from East Orange High School and one participant in the program.

As a teacher and researcher in the areas of cultural anthropology and African American and women's studies, as well as a passionate community activist, Dr. Cole has established herself as a recognized voice on behalf of equality and self-enrichment.

During Dr. Cole's presidency of Spelman College, one of two historically black colleges for women, it became the first black college to receive a number one rating in U.S. News & World Report's annual college issue. In 1997, Dr. Cole's final year of leadership at Spelman, the college completed a major capital campaign that raised \$13.8 million, the largest sum ever raised by a historically black college or university. Textbooks written and edited by Dr. Cole are used in classrooms throughout America's colleges and universities. These include "Conversations: 'Straight Talk With America's Sister Presidents,' 1993, and 'Dream the Boldest Dream: And Other Lessons of Life,' 1997.

Independent schools get grants from Prudential

NEWARK—Eight outstanding independent schools in Newark will receive grants totaling \$230,000 from the Prudential Foundation. These funds will provide operational support to the schools.

Recipient schools include: The Chad School (\$50,000), Children's Academy (\$15,000), Link Community School (\$40,000), Newark Boys Chorus School (\$10,000), St. Benedict's Preparatory School (\$50,000), St. Philips Academy (\$20,000), St. Vincent Academy (\$30,000), and United Academy (\$15,000). Each of these schools is unique, but share the following characteristics:

- High student achievement as measured in standardized test scores, graduation rates, and college attendance;
 - Annual tuition rates that are highly competitive, with many students receiving special scholarship support; and
 - Service to deserving Newark youth who may not otherwise have access to such high quality innovative programming.
- "These independent schools are beacons for educational excellence in Newark," said Gabriella Coleman, president of the Prudential Foundation. "We applaud the tireless efforts of the school's leaders, teachers and involved parents. Their commitment to providing a nurturing, supportive environment coupled with rigorous academics is the formula for their students' success."

The Prudential Foundation has been a long-term funder for many of these



Gabriella Morris Coleman is president of the Prudential Foundation and vice president of the Community Resources unit of Prudential Insurance company of America. In these positions, she oversees Foundation grantmaking, which in 1996 awarded over \$18 million in grants.

In 1996, the Foundation formalized its funding under the Newark Independent School Initiative to raise awareness for the tremendous role these schools collectively play in Newark. Prudential employees also serve as board members and volunteers to the schools.

"While the Prudential Foundation Independent Schools Initiative recognizes that each school has special funding needs that change from year to year, there is more that needs to be done. We hope that more individuals and businesses join in the partnership to keep these schools viable," added Coleman.

Mingo named to Freeholder board

PLAINFIELD—The Union County Democratic Committee recently selected Lewis Mingo, Jr. to fill one of two vacancies on the Union County Board of Chosen Freeholders in a special meeting.

Mingo is a Plainfield resident and a data processing manager with NYNEX in New York City. The former aide to Assemblyman Jerry Gable served on the Plainfield Area Youth Development Tennis Association board, the Plainfield Economic Development Council, the Planning Board and the Adult Education School Board.

"It is an honor to have this opportunity to serve the people of Union County," Mingo said. "We have an extraordinary man in place and I can't wait to get involved. This Freeholder Board has done a great deal of important work and I hope to contribute to this growing tradition of excellence."

Union County Democratic Committee Chairman Charlotte DeFilippo presided over 250 committee members representing 21 municipalities, who unanimously endorsed the candidacy of Mingo and Mary Ruotolo, who lives in Westfield.



Lewis Mingo, Jr. was recently elected to Union County Freeholder.

"I'm thrilled that our party has Lou and Mary on board," DeFilippo said.

"Union County Democrats are proud of the quality candidates we have and these two outstanding individuals are no exceptions. Both stress teamwork and have exceptional sensitivity to taxpayers. I'm sure they will make outstanding Freeholders and serve the residents of Union County very well."

Ruotolo, a mother of three children, is the widow of Andrew K. Ruotolo, Jr. Ruotolo was a United States Attorney and served as Union County Prosecutor from 1991 until his death in 1995 at the age of 42.

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1120 Liberty Avenue
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Highway 93 and Valley Drive
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